HIS117- The Four Caliphs

Lesson Two Handout

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Lesson Two- Abu Bakr as-Siddiq (R.A.)

- Abu Bakr (R.A.) was soft hearted but maintained his rationality in dealing with challenges
- When the prophet (ﷺ) passed away, he addressed the grieving public by reciting the verse:
    - ***"Muhammad (ﷺ) is no more than a Messenger, and indeed (many) Messengers have passed away before him. (Surah Aal-Imran, Ayah 144)"***
- When Umar (R.A.) extended his hand to give the bayah to Abu Bakr (R.A.) as the next khalifa, everyone seemed to unanimously accept due to the high regard the prophet (ﷺ) had for Abu Bakr (R.A.)
- His caliphate lasted for 2 years, 3 months and 10 days
- In those two years he laid the solid foundation that enabled Umar (R.A.) to do all the expansion and state development he was able to do in his caliphate
- He made numerous conquests, dealt with imposters, and cleaned up any corruption that occurred after the passing of the prophet (ﷺ)
- He was known as "Khalifat-ur-Rasullillah" before the passing of the prophet (ﷺ) and as "Ameer-ul-Mumineen" during his caliphate
- The Prophet (ﷺ) and Abu Bakr (R.A.) shared many similarities
    - The reassurance Khadijah (R.A.) gave the prophet (ﷺ) was almost identical to the reassurance Ibn Daghina gave Abu Bakr (R.A.)
    - Both never consumed alcohol even pre-Islam
    - Both were attacked together on a few occasions
    - Both led the Hajj in their lifetime (Abu Bakr (R.A.) in 9th Hijri, the prophet (ﷺ) in 10th Hijri)
    - Had similar family structure
    - Both were accused of being "majnoon"
    - Both died at the age of 63 (i.e Abu Bakr (R.A.) died two years after the Prophet (ﷺ))
    - Both led the same prayer together on one occasion
    - Both were affected by poison which contributed to their deaths
    - Both were buried in Aisha (R.A.)'s room
- Before his passing, he consulted the senior companions and appointed Umar (R.A.) as the next khalifa
- His funeral prayer was led by Umar (R.A.)
- He was buried at night in the room of Aisha (R.A.) , behind the prophet (ﷺ), with his head placed in line with the shoulder of the prophet (ﷺ)